

*Office* **ACQUISITIONS**  
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INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR THE ACQUISITION OF FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS

Meeting of January 29, 1943

MINUTES  
(Revised)

PRESENT:

Department of Commerce	Mr. Domeratsky
Library of Congress	Mr. Moriarty
War Department	Major Hale
Department of State	Mr. Spaulding
Board of Economic Warfare	Mr. Chaput
Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs	Mr. Dudley
Executive Secretary	Mr. Kilgour

Mr. Kilgour was acting chairman in Dr. Langer's absence.

Mr. Kilgour announced that the 1944 Budget of the Inter-departmental Committee would have to be prepared by February 8, and Dr. Spaulding suggested that a special meeting of the Committee be held on Friday, February 5 in order to review the new budget. The Committee approved.

Mr. Kilgour distributed original copies of the Voelkischer Beobachter for January 7, 8, 9, 10. He announced that following the Committee's motion to have him investigate methods for making full-size copies of a limited number of European newspapers available to the various agencies in Washington, he had found that it would be cheaper and much faster to obtain multiple copies of original copies providing that it would be possible to enter multiple subscriptions. As an experiment, he instructed Carruthers in Lisbon to enter fifteen subscriptions to the Voelkischer Beobachter, and three weeks later the fifteen copies had begun to arrive in Washington. The Committee agreed that this method of obtaining full-size copies of European newspapers would undoubtedly be the one to pursue.

Mr. Kilgour announced that Dr. Langer desired to give up his active duties as chairman of the Interdepartmental Committee because his regular duties left him no time to perform the additional duties as chairman of the Committee. Colonel Donovan was willing to appoint the Executive Secretary as acting chairman in accordance with the Memorandum of December 21, 1941, that established the Interdepartmental Committee, but the Executive Secretary wished to get the Committee's reaction to such an appointment before it was actually made. The Committee expressed its regrets

that Dr. Langer would not be able to continue as the active chairman.

Mr. Kilgour then brought up a letter from the Library of Congress concerning the acquisition of publications from Lhasa, Tibet. Mr. Kilgour felt that in the line of the collection policy established by the Committee that he was not in a position to say either yes or no to the Library of Congress request. The Committee in discussing the matter of collecting materials that do not at the moment have an immediate bearing on the war altered its policy to include the collection of materials in areas that might play a part in some way in the future course of the war.

Mr. Moriarty reported that the Joint Committee on Foreign Importations did not intend to enter subscriptions for foreign journals for 1943 and that a quarter of a million dollars purchasing power allotted to the Joint Committee by the Treasury Department for the purchase of publications from Axis and Axis-occupied areas in Europe had not been entirely expended. Mr. Moriarty suggested the possibility that some government agency, possibly the Interdepartmental Committee, take over the uncompleted work of the Joint Committee and make an effort to acquire the 1942 publications which the Joint Committee had been trying to obtain. After a short discussion Mr. Moriarty was asked to investigate this matter.